

**Dylan Steigers Protection of Youth Athletes Act
HJ 26 Update for Education and Local Government Interim Committee**

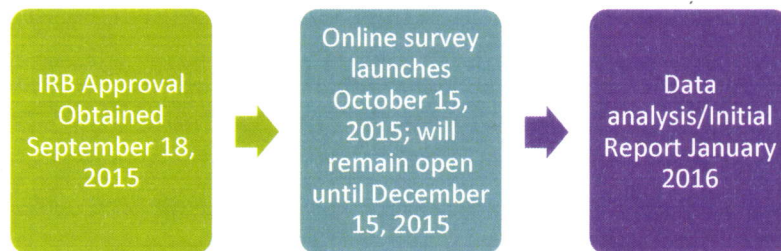
September 18, 2015

Principal Investigator: Dr. Valerie Moody PhD, ATC, LAT, CSCS, WEMT-B

Research Assistants: Seth Lindauer, Samantha Riordan ATC, LAT, Kimberly Davis

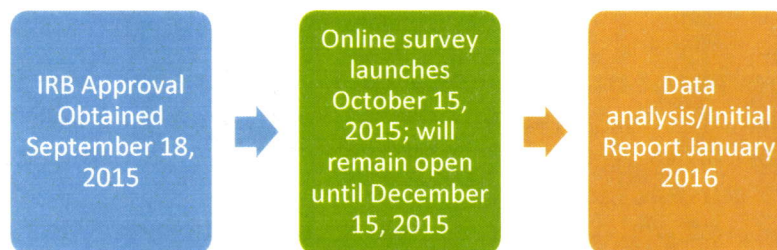
Contact Information: valerie.moody@umontana.edu 406.243.2703

Research Study #1 Statewide Assessment of the Implementation of DSPYAA in Montana Schools (ADs, superintendents, coaches, and principals)



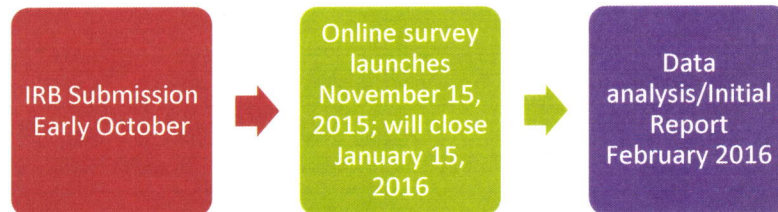
- Obtaining MHSA handbook for distribution lists for Athletic Directors and Coaches across Montana
- Obtained Directory of Schools from OPI website to build distribution list for Superintendents and principals

Research Study #2 Statewide Assessment of Concussion Knowledge and School Concussion Policies of Montana Teachers and School Nurses



- Working on obtaining distribution lists for school nurses and teachers (have been in contact with Bob Vogel from the MTSBA)
- Although this is not currently included in the DYSPAA or HJ 26, we feel it is not only critical to assess returning a youth athlete back to the playing field, but we should also be examining how these kids are doing when we need to return them back into the classroom. We need to better understand what mechanisms are currently in place and how we can better serve the youth athlete to ensure success in the classroom.

Research Study #3 **Statewide Assessment of Concussion Education in Non-Sanctioned Sports in Montana**



- Compiling a distribution list of all non- sanctioned sports group across the state (YMCA, Youth Football, Youth Hockey, Little League Baseball)
- Will survey directors/board members of those organizations
- Working on survey development currently

Research Study #4 **Concussion Knowledge of Youth Athletes and Their Parents in Missoula**



- Currently we have over 100 surveys completed by parents and 60 by athletes (initial data entry and analysis is just starting)
- **General feedback from Missoula Youth Football parents- they are excited we are doing this work and they expressed a want/need for more information! Very few realize that their children are not protected under the current legislation.**
- If funding is received, we could extend this study outside of Missoula to other cities across the state and in more rural areas
- We are trying to secure funding to help us develop educational resources for parents, coaches and athletes

Collaborative Efforts:

- ❖ I met with MHSA executive staff in July to discuss collaborative opportunities with this research and sharing of resources
- ❖ I have met with the Montana Brain Injury Alliance and we are working on developing ideas for funding sources and materials for the educational resources to provide youth athletes, coaches and parents
- ❖ University of Montana Neural Injury Center- I am meeting with Dr. Chuck Leonard in early October to discuss potential collaboration on the educational outreach to Montana communities once we collect the data and identify areas of need

Other Notes:

- ❖ I have applied for funding through the TBI Advisory Council to support this research (currently unfunded request)
- ❖ I also applied for funding through the MT Healthcare Foundation to support the educational outreach following data collection (unfunded request)
- ❖ We have not been funded for any of the research studies yet; however, if we are granted funding, we could incentivize participation for studies #1, #2, and #3 which would give us more data; we could also expand the scope of study #4